

**STREET AS AN URBAN PUBLIC SPACE:**  
AN EVALUATION OF LIVABILITY IN TERMS OF THERMAL COMFORT



THE DISSERTATION PRESENTED TO  
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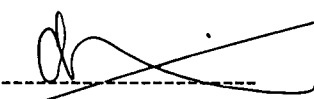
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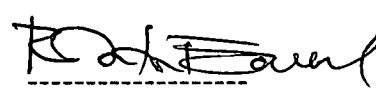
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## PREFACE

Urban public space is the spirit of the civic life in a city; and is a common ground where people carry out the functional and ritual activities that bind a community, where in a normal routine of daily life or in periodic festivities. [Carr,et.al 1992]. The physical environment of those spaces must encourage and accommodate the diverse activities that the citizen's indulge in. As the elements of public spaces act an interwoven net of various functions which carries within itself a set of functional spaces to fulfill the needs of public life, it is the responsibility of the designer to handle the spaces accordingly.

The spaces of urban public space are based on factors of which the level of thermal comfort is seen as an important component. Although life in the equatorial tropics is largely an outdoor phenomenon, modern urban development has by and large failed to facilitate such living in a climatically pleasant manner. The approach then should be an attempt to make the equatorial urban outdoors thermally comfortable.

This dissertation would focus on the spaces in between buildings where people do gather, hang around and carry on their activities such as, walking, relaxing, meeting each other etc. hence, it has a major contribution to the public life of the people in the context.



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The research launches,

1. Shading performs as a positive element on the thermal comfort in urban areas.
2. The orientation can be comprehensively handled in order to achieve thermal comfort in outdoor spaces.
3. Ratio of building height to the width of the road can also be consciously modified or designed towards achieving the above.

Hence, this dissertation would set off a research study which aims at developing climatically conscious urban patterns. At the same time this study would guide various paths of further studies as well.

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>page</b>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Preface</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>List of illustrations</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1. <u>CHAPTER ONE - INTRODUCTION</u></b>	<b>01</b>
1.1 Insight	01
1.2 Observation	01
1.3 Causes	02
1.4 Method of study	03
<b>2. <u>CHAPTER TWO - BACKGROUND</u></b>	<b>04</b>
2.1 Urban public space	04
2.1.1 Definition of urban public space	05
2.1.2 Evolution of urban space	06
2.1.3 Elements of urban space	06
2.1.4 Needs of the urban life	11
2.2 Livability of street	13
2.2.1 Contribution of physical character	13
2.2.2 Atmospheric character	14
2.2.3 Climate as a factor of livability	14
2.3 Thermal comfort	15
2.3.1 An introduction to thermal comfort	15
2.3.2 Elements of thermal comfort	16
2.3.3 Thermal comfort and urban climate	19
2.3.4 Contribution to livability	21
2.4 Architects' responsibility in mitigation of urban climate	23
2.4.1 Increase vegetation cover	24
2.4.2 Increase thermal reflectivity of urban surfaces	25
2.4.3 Manipulate urban geometry	25
<b>3. <u>CHAPTER THREE - CASE STUDIES</u></b>	<b>26</b>
3.1 Hypotheses	26
3.2 Rationale of site selection	26
3.3 Description of site	27
3.3.1 North-South oriented street	27
3.3.2 East-West oriented street	35
3.4 Analysis techniques	43

<b>4. <u>CHAPTER FOUR - ANALYSIS &amp; DISCUSSION</u></b>	<b>45</b>
<b>4.1 Results and comparison</b>	
4.1.1 North-south oriented street	45
4.1.2 East-West oriented street	46
<b>4.2 Effect of design factors</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>4.3 Urban design implications</b>	<b>50</b>
4.3.1 East-West street	51
4.3.2 North-South street	52
4.3.3 Modification to the building edge	53
4.3.4 Use of landscaping	53
 <b>CONCLUSION</b>	 <b>54</b>
▪ Limitations of the study	56
▪ Directions for further study	57
 <b>Bibliography</b>	 <b>58</b>
 <b>Appendices</b>	 <b>61</b>



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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATION

### LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
1. Activities of Streets as A Public Space	04
2. Activities of Streets as A Public Space	04
3. Diagram- Characteristics of Urban Built Environment	07
4. Street As a Gathering Space	07
5. Street As a Gathering Space	08
6. Street As a Gathering Space	08
7. Diagram- Dynamic of Street	09
8. Diagram- Dynamic of Street	09
9. Diagram- Dynamic of Street	10
10. Street As an Urban Space	11
11. Street As an Urban Space	12
12. Diagram- Urban Heat Island Profile	20
13. Diagram- Urban Geometry	21
14. Diagram- Micro Climate Effect	22
15. Diagram- Vegetation Cover	23
16. Diagram- Manipulation of Urban Geometry	24
17. Street Elevation – Prince Street, Pettah	29
18. Street Orientation - Prince Street, Pettah	30
19. Effect of Shadow at 10am – Prince Street, Pettah	30
20. Effect of Shadow at 12noon– Prince Street, Pettah	31
21. Effect of Shadow at 3pm– Prince Street, Pettah	31
22. Street Elevation – Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	33
23. Contextual Section– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	34
24. Street Orientation– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	34
25. Effect of Shadow at 10am– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	35
26. Effect of Shadow at 12noon– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	35
27. Effect of Shadow at 3pm– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	35
28. Street Elevation – Galle road, Bambalapitiya	35
29. Street Orientation– Galle road, Bambalapitiya	37
30. Effect of Shadow at 10am– Galle road, Bambalapitiya	37
31. Effect of Shadow at 12noon– Galle road, Bambalapitiya	38
32. Effect of Shadow at 3pm– Galle road, Bambalapitiya	38
33. Street Elevation – Pagoda road, Nugegoda	39
34. Street Orientation – Pagoda road, Nugegoda	41
35. Effect of Shadow at 10am – Pagoda road, Nugegoda	41
36. Effect of Shadow at 12noon – Pagoda road, Nugegoda	42
37. Effect of Shadow at 3pm – Pagoda road, Nugegoda	42

### LIST OF MAPS

1. Location Map One - Prince Street, Pettah	28
2. Location Map Two– Bank of Ceylon road, Echelon Square	32
3. Location Map Three– Galle road, Bambalapitiya	36
4. Location Map Four– Pagoda road, Nugegoda	40